(b) whether it is also a fact that these agencies purchased wheat through middlemen instead of direct purchase from the farmers;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(d what action has since been taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In Punjab and Haryana, public agencies procure wheat, normally, through Kacha Arhtias. Similarly, in U. P., it is the normal practice to procure wheat through Village Vyaparis instead of Rupees 157 per quintal fixed at Rupees 145 to Rupees 150 a quintal by Government.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In Punjab, the F.C.I. has opened 35 direct purchase centres and the farmers are free to sell their wheat at these centres at the support price fixed by the Government.

Seminar on the Rural Centres and Settlements Planning

2093. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a seminer on the Rural Centres and Settlements Planning sponsored by ESCAP was held in New Delhi during the second week of July, 1985;

(b) if so, the names of countries who participated in the seminar;

(c) the nature of discussions held; and

(d) what are the decisions arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bhutan, Iran, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, participated in the Seminar. Officers of the Government of India and some of the State Governments among others also participated in Seminar.

(c) Representatives from the participating countries presented papers on their country experience in Rural Centre and Settlements Planning and these papers were discussed by the participants.

(d) The report on the Seminar on Rural Centre and Settlements Planning is to be finalised by ESCAP which is a body under United Nations Systems. The report has not been received so far from ESCAP.

Delhi Apartment Ownership Act

2094. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

SHRI P. N. SUKUL:

SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:

MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE:

DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Apartment Ownership Act is being drafted; and

(b) if not, whether the ownership of DDA flats vests with the DDA?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) There is a proposal to enact an Apartment Ownership Act for Delhi.

(b) DDA flats remain lease hold properties after their disposal to the buyers and are governed by the relevant lease terms.

Provident Fund and Family Pension Act for Beedi Workers

2095. SHRI K. MOHANAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Probeedi workers was enforced in June, beedi workers was enforced in June, 1977;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Act was stayed by the Supreme Court in 1979; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH): (a) to (c) The provisions of the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act. 1952 were extended to the Beedi workers w.e.f. 31-5-1977. Some Beedi Manufacturers had subsequently challenged the applicability of the Act to Beedi Industry in the